



# Approved 2023 Interim Study Items

Approved by the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee | May 17, 2023

## Political Subdivisions

Sen. McKell and Rep. Dunnigan

Item	Description
<b>Affordable Housing Utilities Grant Program</b>	Study creating a grant program to provide funding to non-profit housing providers and other possible alternatives to assist with the cost of transferring utilities. Currently, non-profit housing providers have difficulty transferring utilities when dealing with special service districts and political subdivisions.
<b>Limited-use Infrastructure Districts Study</b>	Study the creation of limited-use infrastructure districts as a political subdivision of the state. The committee will consider whether limited-use infrastructure districts (if created) should issue assessment bonds and energy assessment bonds, enter into interlocal agreements, impose fees and levy property taxes, and acquire improvements.
<b>Tax Increment Financing Audit Recommendations</b>	Consider draft legislation to address recommendations from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding tax increment financing. The legislative audit recommended that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agencies report specified information to the Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity</li><li>• The Legislature should provide penalties for failing to comply with reporting requirements</li><li>• Statute should specify the process for the allocation of unspent project funds after the project collection period ends</li><li>• Project area plans should include the rationale for using tax increment financing</li></ul>
<b>Continuing Care Retirement Facilities</b>	Review the oversight of continuing care retirement facilities.
<b>Metro Townships</b>	Examine metro townships, including the taxing authority of metro townships as it relates to public safety services and the long-term viability of metro townships. Currently, metro townships have very limited taxing authority and have to contract with special service districts to provide revenue sufficient to provide necessary services. Additionally, the committee will consider more broadly the long-term plan for metro townships, including whether metro townships should continue as-is, incorporate as a city or town, or be annexed into existing municipalities.



<b>Growth in the Public Treasurer's Investment Fund</b>	The Public Treasurer's Investment Fund (PTIF) is a short-term investment fund for political subdivisions of the state, which includes reserves for counties, cities, school districts, universities, and bond sale reserves. The PTIF has grown from \$15 billion to \$30 billion. The committee will study the growth of the PTIF, short-term liquidity needs. The committee will also review which political subdivisions are participating in the PTIF and the regulatory requirements of the PTIF.
<b>Transportation Utility Fees</b>	The Utah Supreme Court recently ruled in <i>Larsen v. Pleasant Grove City</i> that cities may impose a transportation utility fee. The committee will study and consider whether the state should allow for municipalities to impose a transportation utility fee and, if a transportation utility fee is imposed, whether the state should impose direction for how those fees will be managed, whether the fees should be limited in use and scope, and any requirements the Legislature may decide to impose upon the purpose and imposition of those fees.
<b>Adult-oriented Events in Public Places</b>	Study how the state and political subdivisions can protect children from adult-oriented events that are scheduled to be held in public and private spaces.
<b>General Aviation Long-term Leases</b>	Examine what is happening at the Ogden airport and other general aviation airports regarding hangars and other infrastructure being taken upon the expiration of a longterm land lease.
<b>Political Subdivision Land Authorities</b>	Review the governance structure, powers, and oversight of political subdivision land authorities, including but not limited to: the Military Installation Development Authority, the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority, Utah Lake Authority, and the Inland Port Authority.
<b>Station Area Plans</b>	Station Area Plans (SAPs), when implemented, govern land use decisions for areas within ½ mile of Trax or Frontrunner stations and ¼ mile of bus stops. The committee will review SAPs use in Utah, including how many have been implemented and where they have been implemented, why SAPs are denied or approved, and what lessons have been learned regarding the impact of and implementation of SAPs.
<b>Report from the County Recorder Standards Board</b>	2023 General Session <a href="#">H.B. 351</a> requires the newly created County Recorder Standards Board (board) to provide an annual written report to the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee by October 1. The committee will hear from the board and consider any recommendations for revisions to the statutory authority of the board.



<b>Disclosure Standards and Requirements for Elected or Appointed Officials</b>	Review the disclosure requirements and methods for elected and appointed officials for political subdivisions of the state. There is some evidence of inconsistency in the standards and methods of disclosures in cities, counties, special districts, and the state.
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